

### **Amendment to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims**

1. (currently amended): A method for processing a configuration data change, said method comprising:

receiving a request from a user to implement a change in configuration data, said configuration data relating to an operation of a client;  
storing the received request in a memory area;  
requesting topology data from the memory area based on the configuration data, said topology data defining a relationship between the client and the configuration data;  
receiving the requested topology data from the memory area, said received topology data identifying the client in response to the received request from the user;  
identifying a notification service associated with the identified client; and  
notifying the identified notification service of the change in the configuration data, wherein notifying includes generating a notification manifest identifying the client, said notification manifest defining the change in configuration data and specifying the client affected by the change.

2. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the client comprises one or more of the following: an application program, a server, a service, and an operating system component.

3. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said notifying comprises:

~~generating a notification manifest identifying the client, said notification manifest defining the change in configuration data and specifying the client affected by the change;~~  
generating a notification as a function of the notification manifest; and  
sending the notification to the memory area for access by the notification service.

4. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said request further specifies target configuration data, further comprising storing an instance of the target configuration data in the

memory area and modifying the topology data to define a relationship between the target configuration data and the client.

5. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising determining if the user has authority to change configuration data.

6. (previously presented): The method of claim 5, wherein said determining further comprises determining a set of operations that the user is authorized to perform on the configuration data.

7. (previously presented): The method of claim 6, wherein the set of operations includes one or more of the following: changing configuration data of a back-end client, changing configuration data of a front-end client, changing configuration data of a monitoring client, or viewing configuration data of a second client.

8. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising searching a second memory area to determine if the notification service notified the client of the change in configuration data.

9. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising storing a record in a second memory area, said record indicating one or more of the following: a time that the request to change the configuration data is received, target configuration data, or an identification of the client.

10. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein one or more computer-readable media have computer-executable instructions for performing the method recited in claim 1.

11. (currently amended): A method for notifying a client of a change in configuration data, said method comprising:

receiving a request from a user to implement the change in configuration data;

receiving a notification, said notification indicating [[a]] the change in configuration data, said configuration data relating to an operation of the client;

obtaining a notification manifest from a memory area in response to the received notification, said notification manifest defining the change in the configuration data and specifying the client in response to the received user request;

processing the obtained notification manifest to identify the client; and

sending the notification manifest to the identified client.

12. (previously presented): The method of claim 11, wherein said obtaining a notification manifest comprises querying a configuration database for the notification manifest.

13. (previously presented): The method of claim 11, further comprising storing a record in a second memory area in response to sending the notification manifest, said stored record indicating that the client has been notified of the change in the configuration data.

14. (previously presented): The method of claim 11, wherein said sending comprises sending the notification manifest to the client unless a second memory area stores a record indicating one or more of the following: that the client is being notified of the change in the configuration data, that the client has been notified of the change in the configuration data, or that the change in the configuration data has been executed on the client.

15. (previously presented): The method of claim 11, wherein said sending the notification manifest comprises sending the notification manifest as an electronic mail message.

16. (previously presented): The method of claim 11, wherein one or more computer-readable media have computer-executable instructions for performing the method recited in claim 11.

17. (currently amended): A method for applying a configuration data change to a client, said method comprising:

receiving a request from a user to implement a change in configuration data, said configuration data relating to an operation of a client;

receiving a notification manifest from a notification service, said received notification manifest defining a change in configuration data and specifying a client affected by the change in the configuration data in response to the received user request;

processing the received notification manifest to identify the client;

determining a cache service associated with the identified client; and

notifying the determined cache service of the change in the configuration data to effect the change on the client.

18. (previously presented): The method of claim 17, wherein said notifying comprises applying the change in the configuration data to a cache associated with the client.

19. (previously presented): The method of claim 17, further comprising authenticating a source of the notification manifest.

20. (previously presented): The method of claim 17, further comprising storing a record in a memory area in response to notifying the determined cache service, said record indicating that the client has been notified of the change or that the client has applied the change or both.

21. (previously presented): The method of claim 20, wherein the record further includes a time stamp indicating a time associated with said notifying.

22. (previously presented): The method of claim 17, further comprising storing previous configuration data of the client in a memory area, said previous configuration data indicating a previous configuration state of the client.

23. (previously presented): The method of claim 22, further comprising receiving a request to change the client from an existing configuration state to the previous configuration state, and wherein the change in the configuration data represents a change from the existing configuration data of the client to the previous configuration data.

24. (previously presented): The method of claim 17, wherein said change in the configuration data represents a change in an operational state of the client, said operational state indicating whether the client is executing a service.

25. (previously presented): The method of claim 17, wherein one or more computer-readable media have computer-executable instructions for performing the method recited in claim 17.

26 -40 (withdrawn).